GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AYURVEDA,YOGA & NATUROPATHY,UNANI,SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH)
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:549
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2016
Alzheimer Disease
Reddy Shri Ponguleti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA,YOGA & NATUROPATHY,UNANI,SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) whether the clinical trials of drugs for Alzheimer"s disease have not been successful;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any institute is conducting any innovative research using ashwagandha for treatment of Alzheimer"s disease;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to promote ayurveda for treatment of Alzheimer"s disease?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)
(a)& (b): Yes. As per information furnished by the Department of Biotechnology, it is reported that most of the clinical trials for Alzheimer disease are not successful as the cause of the disease is not known. In these clinical trials reduction of the Amyloid Plaque load in the brain or for prevention of grouping of amyloid beta peptide oligomer formation was considered. In some trials, even the generation of the amyloid peptide was slowed down by the trial drugs but it created huge side effects in those human trials.
(c) & (d): As per available information, no clinical trial has been undertaken in the country using Ashwagandha for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.
(e): In Ayurveda, Rasayana medicines are recommended for the treatment of degenerative diseases including conditions simulating Alzheimer's disease. Rasayana medicines including Ashwagandha are promoted through Information, Education and Communication(IEC) activities and scientific validation studies by the Research Councils. An Extra Mural Research Scheme is also implemented to support such scientific studies.
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